

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
February 11, 2010
Harpswell Town Office
Approved on February 18, 2010

Page 1 of 3

Selectmen Present: James S. Henderson and Mark E. Wallace

Selectmen Absent: Elinor Multer

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator and Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

The meeting was videotaped and broadcast live on Harpswell Community Television.

1. Adoption of the Agenda: Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to adopt the agenda and add appointments under Other Business; motion passed 2-0.

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Approval of the Minutes: None.

4. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane announced that there will be a ground breaking ceremony on Tuesday at 9:00am to mark the beginning of the pipeline removal project. In attendance will be the Pipeline Committee, Chairman Henderson, Project Manager, Contractor, and representatives from Senator Snowe's and Senator Collin's offices. Administrator Eiane announced that absentee ballots for the West Harpswell School referendum vote are available.

5. Selectmen's Announcements: Selectman Wallace announced that AT&T is now working on the communication tower site in preparation of its phone service becoming active by the end of the month.

6. Consider Taking a Position on LD-821: An Act to Support Collection and Property Disposal of Unwanted Drugs: Connie Lewis stated that there will be a vote in the House in about a week on LD-821 and she asked the Board to support passage of the bill. Ms. Lewis provided information regarding the problem with the inappropriate disposal of unused medications. People have leftover medications and often dispose of them in the trash or by flushing down the toilet, which is causing drinking water and soil contamination. In November 2009 grass roots medication collection in MidCoast Maine resulted in 1,683 pounds of non-controlled medications. These collections cannot continue without volunteers, donations and grants, which is likely to end soon. Additionally, many home break-ins are related to thieves looking for prescription drugs. Leftover medications often create accidental ingestion issues. LD-821 will require the pharmaceutical companies to finance and be responsible for taking back unused medications for proper disposal. If the bill passes, it requires medication returns to be "convenient and accessible" which may include a mail-in program in some areas. Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to instruct the Town Administrator to draft a letter in support of LD-821 to send to the Senate President, Speaker of the House and our legislators; motion passed 2-0.

7. Consider Proposal for a Mitchell Field Bandstand: Bob Modr stated when the Mitchell Field Master Plan was in process, he requested an arts and entertainment area. A bandstand committee has been formed to organize volunteers and raise donations to construct and maintain a bandstand at Mitchell Field. The Harpswell Festival will be the bandstand committee's agent for 501(c)(3) status. Mr. Modr stated the proposal has been presented to the Mitchell Field Implementation Committee which approved the plan with reservations regarding the specific location and he asked the Board of Selectmen to support the concept. Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to authorize the Town Administrator to investigate a warrant article for Town Meeting and to send the proposal for legal review; motion passed 2-0.

8. Consider Updated 2009 Carryover List: Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to adopt the revised carryover list with the three outlined changes; motion passed 2-0.

9. Review 2010 Budget and Updated Revenue Estimates: Administrator Eiane reviewed the updated budget and estimated revenue sheet. The Board approved budget totals \$4,001,583 and with the use of \$1,615,000 in revenues and \$265,000 use of fund balance, leaves \$2,121,583 to be funded by the taxpayers, which is 62,956 less than the LD1 limit. The estimated revenues accounts for a decrease in the homestead exemption from \$13,000 to \$10,000 and for the State's proposed payment plan of the total owed to the Town to be paid as 75% in 2010 and 25% in July 2011. Chairman Henderson asked for information regarding options for a Town "circuit breaker" program. Administrator Eiane noted the proposed \$600,000 borrowing for emergency vehicles does not impact the budget until 2011 in the debt service category. Chairman Henderson asked questions on the 2010 budget listing by category to better understand the proposed \$45,000 reduction in the 2010 budget over the 2009 approved budget. Administrator Eiane handed out a proposed report from the Carrying Place Assembly for the Town Report and two proposed warrant articles, one that requests an appropriation of \$2,500. Additionally, a budget request from the Midcoast Regional Redevelopment Authority (MRRRA) was handed out. Both requests may have a potential impact on the proposed budget and the interested parties will be invited to attend next week's meeting to provide more information.

10. Review Draft 2010 Town Meeting Warrant: Administrator Eiane handed out an updated draft warrant for Town Meeting and brought the Board's attention to certain articles. Chairman Henderson requested the Orr's Island Library be informed of the Budget Advisory's request to hold onto the Town appropriation until the library raised \$100,000. Administrator Eiane explained the Board needs to set the interest rate on unpaid taxes in article 51 based on the State's maximum allowance that is 7%. The rate on abated taxes in article 53 has to be set and cannot have a difference greater than 4% from the percentage in article 51. The Board needs to review and approve the amounts outlined in Article 58. Chairman Henderson asked if there would be a projector to illustrate articles such as 14 and 15; handouts will be provided. Chairman Henderson provided a brief summary of the ordinance hearing on Tuesday and the Board discussed which ordinances to place on the warrant. Chairman Henderson stated he preferred to put the Planning Board's version of the Blasting Ordinance on the warrant first, followed by the Selectmen's version. Selectman Wallace stated he phoned a well drilling company to get an idea of the costs involved with the flow tests and water samplings that the Planning Board's version requires, which is about \$1,000 per abutter. Selectman Wallace agreed to put the Selectmen's version on only. The Board agreed to the Shoreland Zoning amendment regarding foundations; Sign Ordinance; swimming pools; and workforce housing ordinances. Administrator Eiane reported she spoke with the Town Attorney and clarified the proposed amendments to the minor site plan review that the abutters will be notified prior to the review committee meeting and Planning Board will be notified of the review committee's decision. The attorney states these changes are not substantive. The Board agreed to place the Site Plan amendment on the warrant.

11. Set Start Time for Business Portion of Annual Town Meeting: Selectman Wallace moved, seconded by Chairman Henderson to set the start time for the business meeting at 10:00 a.m.; motion passed 2-0.

12. Schedule Public Hearing for Curtis Library Secret Ballot Item: Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to set March 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Selectmen's Meeting as a hearing for the Curtis Library secret ballot item; motion passed 2-0.

13. Consider Request for Proposals for Compactor Container at Recycling Center: Staff informed the Board that the request for proposal would be sent out and prior to making a commitment to a contractor, the recommendation would be brought back to the Board for review and approval.

14. Other Business: Election Appointments: Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to appoint: Thomas Rothwell, Lou Brown, and Melissa Moretti as Deputy Wardens; Catherine Doughty, Patricia Leary, Janet Coombs, and Megan Hubbard as Wardens; and Margaret Bonarrigo as an election/ballot clerk; motion passed 3-0.

15. Authorization of the Warrant: Chairman Henderson moved, seconded by Selectman Wallace to authorize warrant #9 in the amount of \$4,175.13; motion passed 2-0. Payroll warrant #7 in the amount of \$14,031.26 was noted for the record.

16. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer

Attachments:
[Attachments are available at the Town Clerk's Office or by email at harpswell@gwi.net]